

PhD Dissertation Committee

After passing their oral comprehensive examination, PhD students must assemble a dissertation committee. This committee oversees the prospectus defense and the dissertation defense. The dissertation committee has four members, at least two GerScan faculty and one UO non-GerScan institutional representative. This institutional representative is responsible for overseeing the fairness and rigor of the PhD defense. Students have the right and responsibility to choose their own committee chair/ co-chairs, and, in consultation with the chair(s), the other committee members. As needed, a non-UO specialist may count as one of the two core committee members. The dissertation committee does not need to be the same as the comprehensive examination committee. For detailed explanations of the role and status of each member of the dissertation committee, see the policy published by the Division of Graduate Studies.

To the students:

Committee members are typically chosen for their expertise in specific fields. It is advisable that you take at least one course with each committee member before asking them to serve on your committee so that you know each other's intellectual styles. Be aware, that the faculty are serving on your committee at their own discretion. Since every faculty member has different expectations, please clarify with each committee member how closely they want to be involved in your writing process. Some people want to see drafts of each chapter as you write them, some may prefer to wait and read the complete draft. Do give each faculty member a chance to read the entire dissertation and give you feedback before you ask them to approve your oral defense.

Date	
Student Name	
Proposed Dissertation Title / Topic	
Committee Chair (GerScan)	
Co-Chair (optional)	
Core Member (may be non UO)	
Core Member (GerScan)	
Institutional Representative (UO but not GerScan)	

Each member must SIGN as indication of willingness to serve.

NOTE: If there will be a committee member from another university, the student must attach this professor's CV to the committee list along with a rationale statement from the student or department head.

Approval by Department Head

<p>Department Head</p> <p>Signature: _____ Date _____</p>
